

# Emami ties up with Calcutta Tramways

## In talks with public sector oil cos for bio-diesel supply

Special Correspondent

**KOLKATA:** Emami Biotech, a company within the diversified Emami group, has opened dialogues with public sector oil majors such as Indian Oil Corporation, Hindustan Petroleum and Bharat Petroleum for selling its bio-diesel which it makes at its Haldia plant in West Bengal, Aditya Agarwal, Director, Emami Group of companies, said here on Tuesday.

Talking to reporters after signing an agreement with Calcutta Tramways Company (CTC) for selling bio-diesel, he said that the company was keen on entering a marketing tie-up with PSU oil majors. It also had plans to set up standalone dispensing stations for bio fuel sales. "We have got land for these outlets in Haldia in West Bengal and Balasore in Orissa," he said.

- **To set up standalone dispensing stations**

- **Hopes to substantially reduce pollution**

Manish Goenka, another director, said that talks were also on with the transport companies in the neighbouring States for supplying bio-diesel. "Talks are on with Orissa, Chhattisgarh and the north-eastern States among others," he told *The Hindu*. CTC had already started procuring bio-diesel from Emami Biotech from February 1, and hopes to substantially reduce pollution caused by the fleet of buses that it also runs once it uses the bio-diesel and diesel fuel-mix.

Mr. Goenka said the com-

pany had capacity to produce 300 tonnes of bio-diesel daily at its Haldia plant which has been set up at a cost of Rs. 150 crore. He said the capacity could be ramped up once buyers were found. "We can cater to the needs of the PSUs and the transport companies."

Bio-diesel is a diesel-equivalent processed fuel derived from biological sources such as vegetable oils, including soya and palm oils. This can be used in unmodified diesel engine vehicles.

The Emami Group has a presence through sectors such as FMCG, newsprint, private hospital, edible oil, bio-diesel, realty and ball pen tips manufacturing. It also has a footprint in retailing. It has boosted its presence in the pharma sector through the recent acquisition of Zandu Pharmaceuticals.